The Angel
resident
September 2016

CAPITAL CONNECTIONS
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Dexters Bloomsbury 020 7833 4488

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£775 pw

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CONTENTS

16

COVER IMAGE:
PASCAL AUSSIGNAC,
PHOTOGRAPHED EXCLUSIVELY FOR
THE ANGEL RESIDENT BY TIM RONEY

ON THE COVER

16 Meet the local who is the face of London Fashion Weekend

20 The sweet smell of success... The rise of the perfumery

42 Pascal Aussignac kicks off our gourmet special

People & Places

13 Islington as the UK's City of Culture? Rosie Millard says that's not so far fetched

14 The best of the London Design Festival in N1

Homes & Interiors

22 The inside design story of King's Cross station's regeneration

24 An eye-opening, light-filled Islington home

34 The three must-have new trends for every home

Gourmet

45 What a catch... Why the Angler's new Head Chef is one to watch

48 The latest food news

Lifestyle

51 Looking at the long term benefits of parents learning to have patience with their child in school and out

Property

56 The many benefits of living in and around Islington

57 Dexters open in north London and can't wait to get started

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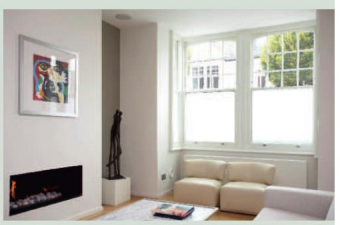

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406 Merton Road, Wandsworth, London SW18 5AD
61-63 Tottenham Lane, Crouch End, London N8 9BE

The Angel resident

theresident.co.uk
Avon House (5th Floor), Kensington Village,
Avonmore Road, London W14 8TS 020 7605 2200

Publishing Director
Caroline Vernhettes

Editor-in-Chief
Vicky Mayer

EDITORIAL

Editor Mark Kebble
mark.kebble@archant.co.uk
Editorial Assistant Rachel Mantock
rachel.mantock@archant.co.uk
Art Director Andrew Pye
andrew.pye@archant.co.uk
Senior Designer Lacey McBane
lacey.mcbane@archant.co.uk
Designer Lee Henry
lee.henry@archant.co.uk
Digital Editor Victoria Purcell
victoria.purcell@archant.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Commercial Director
Eddie Pearce
020 7605 2286

DISPLAY
Senior Advertising Manager Heather Jones-Hughes
heather.jones-hughes@archant.co.uk
Account Manager Lee Staples
lee.staples@archant.co.uk
Senior Classified Executive Janine Goldich
janine.goldich@archant.co.uk

PROPERTY
Property Manager Gareth Owen
gareth.owen@archant.co.uk
Sales Support Co-ordinator Jessica Bardini
jessica.bardini@archant.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION
Logistics Manager Ryan Michael
ryan.michael@archant.co.uk

Contact us at theresident.co.uk. Follow us on Twitter @angelmag and facebook The Resident London

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Letter from the EDITOR

ELANOR TRAVERS (HAIR) AND ERIN FULLER (MAKE UP), GINA CONWAY PRIVÉ; GINACONWAYPRIVE.COM. PHOTO BY TOM DUNKLEY

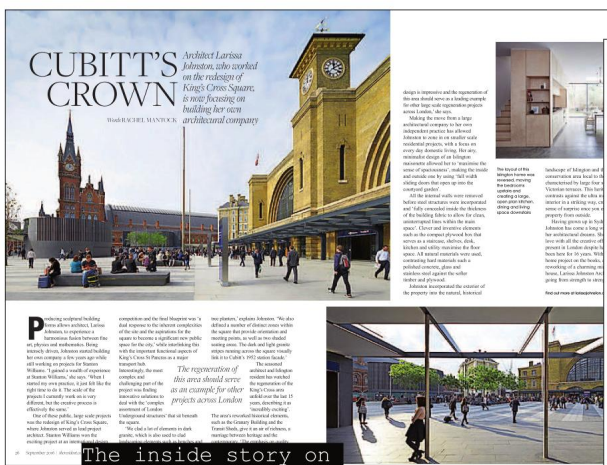
With the fall out from Brexit ongoing – will it ever end? – our star columnist Roise Millard has put a tantalising thought into my mind. What if north London became it's own 'country', free to live and thrive on its own and without the interference of others. No, I haven't been drinking, it's just that I firmly believe we have everything anyone would need.

Take that most important of things: food. There's certainly plenty of it around, and you could sample cuisines from all corners of the globe just by taking a stroll down Upper Street. Head a little further south down St John Street into Clerkenwell, and onwards to Smithfield, and you will come across Pascal Aussignac's fabulous Club Gascon. I remember interviewing the French chef maestro nigh on ten years ago and he doesn't appear to have aged – must be something to do with the joy he takes in the job.

After eating, perhaps you then want to head out for the evening and, again, you won't be short of options. With festivals aplenty approaching this month, Islington certainly doesn't shirk on the creatives taking part. We even have some of London's best perfumeries, ensuring we would all smell good too when out.

After all this excitement, home calls and when it comes to interior design, not many places do it as well us. Rachel Mantock interviews one of the brains behind King's Cross station's revamped look, and Kara O'Reilly points out the new trends every home needs. See, it could work.

Mark Kebble, Editor



CUBITT'S CROWN

Architect Larissa Johnston, who worked on the redesign of King's Cross Square, is now focusing on building her own architecural company

Words RACHEL MANTOCK

The inside story on King's Cross station's wonderful look

GOURMET

{FOOD AND DRINK IDEAS FOR DISCERNING PALATES}

TREAT FOR THE SENSES

Why north London is the place to offer five star dining

Your gourmet special featuring Pascal Aussignac starts here

PULL UP A PEW

From cosy love seats to new-look wingbacks, we've got your seating plan sorted

Shot by KARA O'REILLY

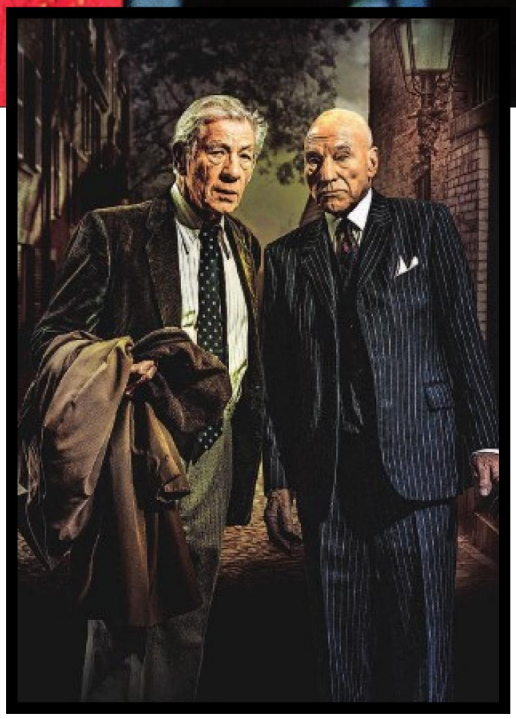
The nine latest must-buy sofas on the market

FILM FIESTA

Running until 5 October, BFI Southbank are hosting a season dedicated to one of contemporary cinema's most unique and talented filmmakers, Pedro Almodóvar. The season will include an extensive events programme with on-stage appearances from Almodóvar himself, plus feature classics such as Volver starring Penélope Cruz and many more.
bfi.org.uk

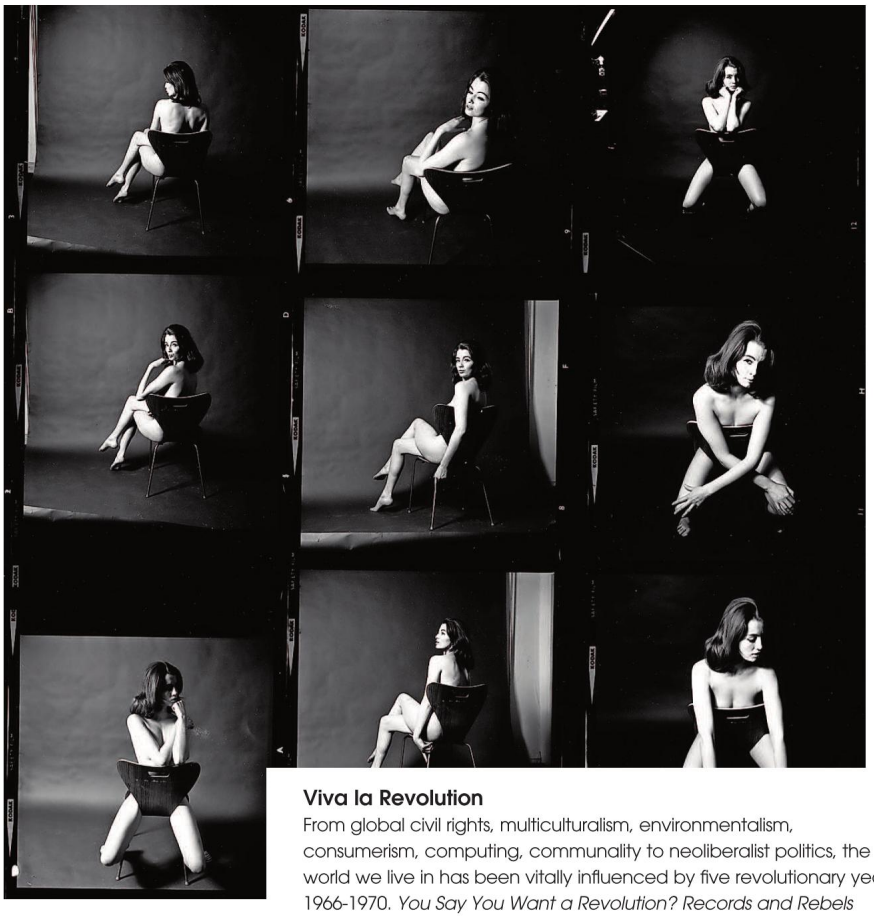
COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

The LAPADA Arts & Antiques Fair returns for its eighth year at the suitably breathtaking surrounds of Berkeley Square, Mayfair. The Fair, running from 13-18 September, offers an unmissable opportunity to source and buy some of the world's most coveted works of art, antiques, design and decorative arts.
Berkeley Square W1J 6EB; 020 7823 3511; lapadalondon.com



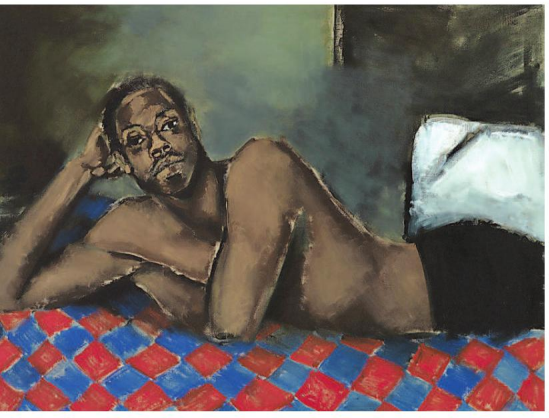
Land of giants
Opening at Wyndham's Theatre on 8 September, *No Man's Land* will see two theatre titans, Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart, reunited on stage together. One summer's evening two ageing writers meet in a Hampstead pub. As the pair become increasingly inebriated, and their stories more unbelievable, the lively conversation soon turns into a revealing power game, further complicated by the arrival of two sinister younger men.
0844 482 5120; NoMansLandThePlay.com

PEROU; LEWIS MORLEY



Viva la Revolution
From global civil rights, multiculturalism, environmentalism, consumerism, computing, communality to neoliberalist politics, the world we live in has been vitally influenced by five revolutionary years: 1966-1970. *You Say You Want a Revolution? Records and Rebels 1966-70* at the V&A, opening on 10 September, will investigate the upheaval and the explosive sense of freedom.
Cromwell Road SW7 2RL; 020 7942 2000; vam.ac.uk

Open door policy
Returning on 17-18 September, Open House London is the capital's greatest architectural showcase. It is a unique opportunity to get out and under the skin of London's amazing architecture with over 750 buildings – from homes to landmarks – opening their doors, plus neighbourhood walks, cycle tours, architects' talks and debates also planned.
Find all the details at openhouselondon.org.uk



AFRICAN EUROPEAN

Inspired by the influences of his early life, living between Europe and Nigeria, celebrated fashion designer, Duro Olowu has curated an eclectic exhibition, Making & Unmaking (b. 1965, Lagos), which is in its last month of showing at the Camden Arts Centre this September. The installation is a fusion of bold designs, patterns, colours and shapes, along with antique textiles and a brining together of discordant patterns with the culture of the African diaspora.
Find out more at camdenartscentre.org

GOING POTTY

The Geffrye Museum's Ceramics in the City returns from 22-25 September, bringing together the work of 50 potters from across the UK in a riot of colour, style, texture and technique. A wide array of objects for the home will be on sale.
136 Kingsland Road E2 8EA; geffrye-museum.org.uk

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ROSIE MILLARD

Islington, the UK's City of Culture? It may not be so far-fetched

Everyone who knows me is aware that I am a big cheerleader for the city of Hull, which is of course the UK City of Culture in 2017. Go up and see what's going on; it is going to be wonderful, and you won't be disappointed.

However, when I meet people who have never been to Hull (and there are a fair few), they often say: 'Ooh, how big is it? Is it near Newcastle? How many people live there?' To which I usually say: 'It is not very near Newcastle. It has a population of 250,000. Which is about the same as Islington.'

Now, since I actually live in Islington, I have been wondering what one could celebrate here if it were to receive a similar accolade. The event would have to be scaled down, of course. We are expecting a million visitors to Hull in 2017. Plus, the fabric of N1 is more modest. Yes, it is. I know Islington is on the Monopoly board, but it is not a city with a Royal Charter. There is a river, but the New River is hardly the magnitude of 'tidal Humber' (I will send a prize to anyone who can correctly identify that phrase). There is a bridge, but the railway stretch over the Cally is not in the same category as the suspended majesty of the giant Humber Bridge.

The Deep is a key cultural attraction in Hull. Surely Islington has something similar?

ROSIE LOVES

Criterion Auction Rooms, Essex Road. Brilliant treasure trove for lighting, crockery, carpets and obviously furniture via the Monday sales. Very good value. Possibility of bumping into Charles Dance.

So alright, let's give Islington a figurative month of cultural jamboree. What would I choose to highlight? The Almeida Theatre, definitely. Little Angel Theatre, ditto. But are they essentially OF Islington? Could they thrive in any other London village? I would say perhaps they could. The Tower Theatre in Canonbury, however, with its band of enthusiastic amateurs, probably couldn't, and neither could the neighbouring Estorick art gallery with its penchant of showing art born via a quirky brand of aesthetic socialism.

Equally, the Screen on the Green, which once held court to the Sex Pistols, is absolutely a local treasure and should certainly be celebrated, perhaps by a visit from J. Rotten himself and certainly with a concert from Spandau Ballet, some of whom went to the original Pistols gig and all of whom were born and bred in the area. It ought also to hold a week-long retrospective of movies directed by the cinematic master that is Alan Parker, who was raised just off Cross Street and educated at William Tyndale, followed by Dame Alice Owen's.

You see? Once you get going, there's no stopping. Yotam Ottolenghi, who has encouraged the nation to eat groovily, but who has long catered for diners from his Upper Street restaurant, could have a Vegetarian Feast running down the entire length of the street, helped with the crockery at one end by the Islington institution that is Frederick's and the other by relative newbies Trullo.

The multitude of hacks who live in Islington could do the programme; Michael Rosen could dedicate a special poem to the place and local thespian Charles Dance, in one of his perfect suits, could lead guided historical tours around the Islington Squares. Would you go on a guided tour of the area if it was led by Charles Dance? Are you crazy? Don't forget, the event has to inspire and engage locals as well as visitors, and we have to have something to look forward to in these uncertain times. I bumped into him the other day at Criterion Auction Rooms and it was a cultural moment, believe you me.

The Angel resident

RECOMMENDS

The best of London Design Festival in Islington and Shoreditch

1 UNDER THE SEA

Modern, design led children's store Molly Meg has created a whimsical exhibit inspired by everything to do with the ocean in collaboration with BigStuffed from Paris. Their store will be transformed into an underwater wonderland, complete with giant sea creatures and workshops that will be held throughout the week to encourage little ones and their parents to get creative.
111 Essex Road N1 2SL; mollymeg.com

2 PORTUGUESE FLAIR

Aria and TWO.SIX design have teamed up to bring you 'Portugal comes to ARIA', an eclectic fusion of past, present and future in the form of seamless, high quality design. Bringing the intense passion, bright colours and vibrancy of the Portuguese culture to London, these two brands are cooking up a multicultural visual feast in the form of superior, contemporary furniture design. This is not one to be missed.
Barnsbury Hall N1 1PN; ariashop.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY: NICOLAS COULOMB

3 JOIN THE CULT

Dubbed as 'cult pattern pioneers', Patternity will host a cross disciplinary spectacle as part of London Design Festival, featuring installations, workshops, industry talks and exciting collaboration launches. They'll even have a pop-up shop full of all things Patternity, including their brand new book, while roundtable discussions of pattern trends and pattern making techniques take place throughout the day.
28 Redchurch Street E2 7DP; patternity.org

4 THROWING & GLAZING

Internationally renowned ceramist, Linda Bloomfield, has partnered with Canvas Home to bring interactive throwing and glazing sessions to London Design Festival. She'll be whipping up perfectly sculpted, shiny porcelain designs at the Canvas Home showroom in front of viewers, giving them the chance to buy her unique translucent, coloured designs themselves and have them shipped home.
57 Amwell Street EC1R 1UR; canvashomestore.co.uk

5 LIFE & DEATH

Completing their luxurious, coveted Ruskin collection, Timorous Beasties will launch the final wallpaper patterns for this range. The exhibit, named 'After Ruskin, Life and Death Wallpaper', highlights the rapid growth of their trend setting floral and digital damask patterns. New, colossal sized wall coverings and wallpaper panels – Arboreal, Skull Damask and Kaleido Block – will be showcased at the festival, giving viewers first dibs.
46 Amwell Street EC1R 1XS; timorousbeasties.com

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HANNAH HILLIER

EXPRESS YOURSELF

London Fashion Weekend presenter Laura Jackson tells us why she loves the British design scene and east London

Words RACHEL MANTOCK

Fashion connoisseur, TV presenter and one half of the quirky Jackson & Levine lifestyle and food brand, Laura Jackson is a modern day It Girl, with beauty and style in one hand, and brains and business savvy creativeness in the other. As a host for this year's London Fashion Weekend at the Saatchi Gallery, the east Londoner is excited to see the Sibling and Preen shows, as well as to instantly shop the looks from the trend show, something she feels adds to the weekend's ultra modern climate. 'London Fashion Weekend is a great place to spend the afternoon with your friends and have a glass of bubbles,' she enthuses. 'The talks are always really exciting with some great speakers from the world of fashion, giving great insight into the business, so I am going to try and catch a couple of those!'

Jackson names Mansur Gavriel as her favourite handbag designer of the moment, Maryam Nassir Zadeh as her current favourite shoe designer, and the Gül Hürgel brand as her go to for beautiful summer dresses. She likes to 'keep things simple' when it comes to her own style, without brash big accessories, and a preference for navy and grey, as well as pink. 'I'm not so into prints, but I do love a stripe,' she says. 'I think as I get older I'll love more tailored pieces, items that create a nice silhouette.'

Holly Fulton

Speaking of her summer style this year, which has had a carefree yet elegant vibe about it, she says: 'I have really loved the bare shoulder trend all summer. You can be sexy but without too much skin, it's subtle and effective. I'm hoping to see some off the shoulder pieces for sale in the fashion emporium at London Fashion Weekend, so I can make a couple of on-trend purchases.'

Looking ahead at the fashion calendar, Jackson is most likely to be clad in heavy velvet, corduroy and clean muted tones once autumn and winter ›

This year's Fashion Weekend will feature fashion collections from Holly Fulton, Preen, Sibling and Korea's J. JS Lee

London Fashion Weekend will take place at the Saatchi Gallery, currently hosting the Rolling Stones exhibition

Jackson (right) set up Jackson & Levine with friend, Alice Levine (left)

come around. The former *Freshly Squeezed* presenter says she 'loves getting back into autumn/winter' despite the fact that 'we are pretty much wearing jumpers all summer in England anyway'.

Getting older has allowed Jackson to make more ethical fashion decisions, consciously deciding not to have such a disposable mindset when it comes to clothes, with less impulse buying, making fewer purchases as a result. 'As you become older, you are much more aware of your own moral compass. The world is much more aware of how and where clothes are being manufactured; therefore we can make more intelligent choices in terms of where we choose to spend.'

We are free to express ourselves any way that we please, there are no boundaries in fashion here

Considering the extreme vitality of the London fashion scene, Jackson dubs it as 'honestly the best place in the world for fashion', putting this down to its prestigious fashion schools, which are arguably the best in the world, the support from industry bodies such as the British Fashion Council, and fashion students giving back to the city once they make it big in the cut throat industry. 'All the alumni from the best schools choose to stay and work in London after graduation, like Christopher Kane, Erdem, and Mary Katrantzou, which makes our fashion extremely forward thinking and fresh,' she says. 'I'd say that Molly Goddard is one to watch, her tulle dresses are beautiful, so delicate and pretty.'

Pointing out London's multiculturalism as another factor in its success as a fashion capital, she says: 'London is so vibrant and honest. We are free to express ourselves any way that we please; there are no boundaries in fashion here. In that sense, I love London and its eclectic mix.'

And it's not only the fashion that keeps Jackson in love with the capital. The east London local loves to lunch at Rochelle Canteen in Arnold Circus, stocking up on vegetables from the farmer's market in Stoke Newington, before 'popping over to the Italian deli for my burrata'. She's coffee loyal to Curio Cabal and her favourite place to dine is Morito in Exmouth Market. A proud east London resident, Jackson says that she 'loves the real sense of community' in the area.

'I know all my neighbours, all the lovely people in the coffee shop and my local supermarket, my boyfriend has even been drinking in the local pub for 15 years! I walk my dog by Haggerston Park every morning and have conversations with people walking past about what's going on in the world. There is always something fun to do, like attending the hot tub rooftop cinema, if that's your sort of thing.'

With a Jackson & Levine cookbook in the works, supper clubs taking place and a new TV project in the pipeline with her business partner, Alice Levine, Jackson's schedule will be packed far beyond London Fashion Weekend. She probably handles the frazzled, haven't-slept-in-days writer look better than most, putting a trend setting, chic spin on it. We'll all be donning the writer-in-session look by next season.

Laura Jackson will present the London Fashion Weekend shows with her co-host Jack Guinness from the 22-25 of September. Get tickets at londonfashionweekend.co.uk

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Versatile NOTES

Islington and Spitalfields are at the forefront of London's niche perfumery scene, where more than just fragrances are being bottled

Words RACHEL MANTOCK

Bored and disappointed with the fragrances mainstream retailers have to offer, all so similar smelling with an ever present synthetic, slightly medicine like undertone, those in search of more specialised, bespoke scents are turning to niche perfumeries, which are on the rise in London. With Islington and Spitalfields having been at the forefront of the perfumery business in the city half a century or so ago, we spoke to two of the best expert perfume boutiques in the area today to find out why people are still coming to them in search of unusual perfumes with an edge…

ROSE OF THE NORTH-EAST

Much like wine, where the grapes aren't the same every year, producing a slightly different flavour even though it's the same brand of wine, the tantalising fragrances from Angela Flanders work in the same way. Director and daughter of the founder of Angela Flanders perfumery, Kate Evans, says: 'We don't mass produce when you are dealing with natural ingredients, it is never an exact science and you can't reproduce that organically on a mass scale. Crops develop differently every year, so variations always come into play. Obviously we hold stock and aim for consistency, but the slight variations give our perfumes individuality.'

Sourcing their exotic ingredients from all over the globe, many of which are native to the Middle East, the Mediterranean, the south of France and India, such as sandalwood, patchouli, citrus blends and jasmine, the team at Angela Flanders have an extensive knowledge of historic and futuristic perfume trends from every corner of the world, using that expertise to produce fragrances that are living - growing, expanding and shrinking on a person's skin throughout the day and into the evening,

the scent blend shifting and morphing as the hours pass.

Evans' mother (Angela Flanders herself) founded the store just over 30 years ago in Columbia Road, inspired by the famous flower market. One of the first perfumes she made was a Christmas inspired scent, a combination of woody cinnamon tones dotted with citrus bursts that they still sell today. Evans explains: 'Every time we have tried to discontinue a scent, customers come in and are really disappointed, so we actually haven't ever discontinued any. Every perfume we make has a following.'

The dark, mystical, shape shifter scents at Angela Flanders perfumery each have a story to tell, like the Mr Severs scented candle, produced specifically for the Dennis Severs House that is preserved in 18th century glory inside and out, just down the road from the perfumery's Spitalfields branch. This scent was a Flanders' original, produced back when each blend came from the wonderful flowers of Columbia Road Market.

Their perfume of the moment and best seller, Precious, was made for Evans by Flanders with intriguing earthy and mossy oak notes. It won the Best Independent Fragrance award from the Fragrance Foundation in 2012. 'There is a lot of vetiver in the blend, which gives it that mossy, earthy green note, along with some tuberose and white, waxy floral notes,' Evans explains. 'It's a very unusual and distinctive fragrance.'

Of the move towards more deep, earthy aromas within fragrance, Dimitri Mouton, who heads their Spitalfields store, says: 'I think people are becoming more daring and want to explore things that are a bit more complex. We have seen a move towards woody scents such as ouhd that originates from the Middle East with a leathery, smokey essence. Precious just has a complexity and depth about it that people have come to appreciate.'

The entire black label at Angela Flanders focuses on deep fruity, spicy tones, fused with wood and moss notes, making them leaders in the movement towards more bold, yet subtle fragrance blends. Ouhd is produced when agar wood is infested with a special beetle, causing a decay. It is the resin from that decay that produces the ouhd scent. It's been used in the Middle East for centuries, yet is a fairly new perfume concept here in the West.

People are becoming more daring and want to explore things that are a bit more complex

With a honeyed whisky scent that was inspired by the fermenting process at Johnnie Walker Whisky in Scotland, with a cult like following and their most recent fragrance, Columbia Rose, which celebrates their foundations in Columbia Road, Angela Flanders Perfumery bottles memories and pinnacle moments in time in the form of scents. Master storytellers and scent connoisseurs, they are the jewel in the rose crown of Columbia Road and a founding mother of the niche perfumery scene in London, set to lead the way into the fragrance future.

Angela Flanders Perfumery is located at 96 Columbia Road E2 7QB and at 4 Artillery Lane E1 7LJ: angelaflanders-perfumer.com

A DIFFERENT APPROACH

A spin off from Lush Cosmetics, Gorilla Perfumes, headed by father and son perfumer duo Mark and Simon Constantine, take inspiration from art, music, poetry, landscapes and personal experiences when producing their bold, quirky fragrances. For them, perfume making is an art form and a means to truly express themselves.

They have a strong policy of only sourcing their eclectic ingredients ethically without ever testing their perfumes on animals. All of their resources are poured into mastering the scents they create, rather than fancy bottles, labelling and packaging. Thriving off delving into the full range of human emotion, they even produced a scent named Death, Decay and Renewal inspired by the feeling of grief. Mark and Simon want those who buy their fragrances to 'find their own stories within them'.

Incorporating more than one of the senses, the Gorilla Perfumes store in Camden Passage has a listening booth where you can pick a record and relax while taking in different notes and tones. Every month they hold 'Scented Songs', a live gig where musicians involved pick the fragrance that most 'smells like their song'.

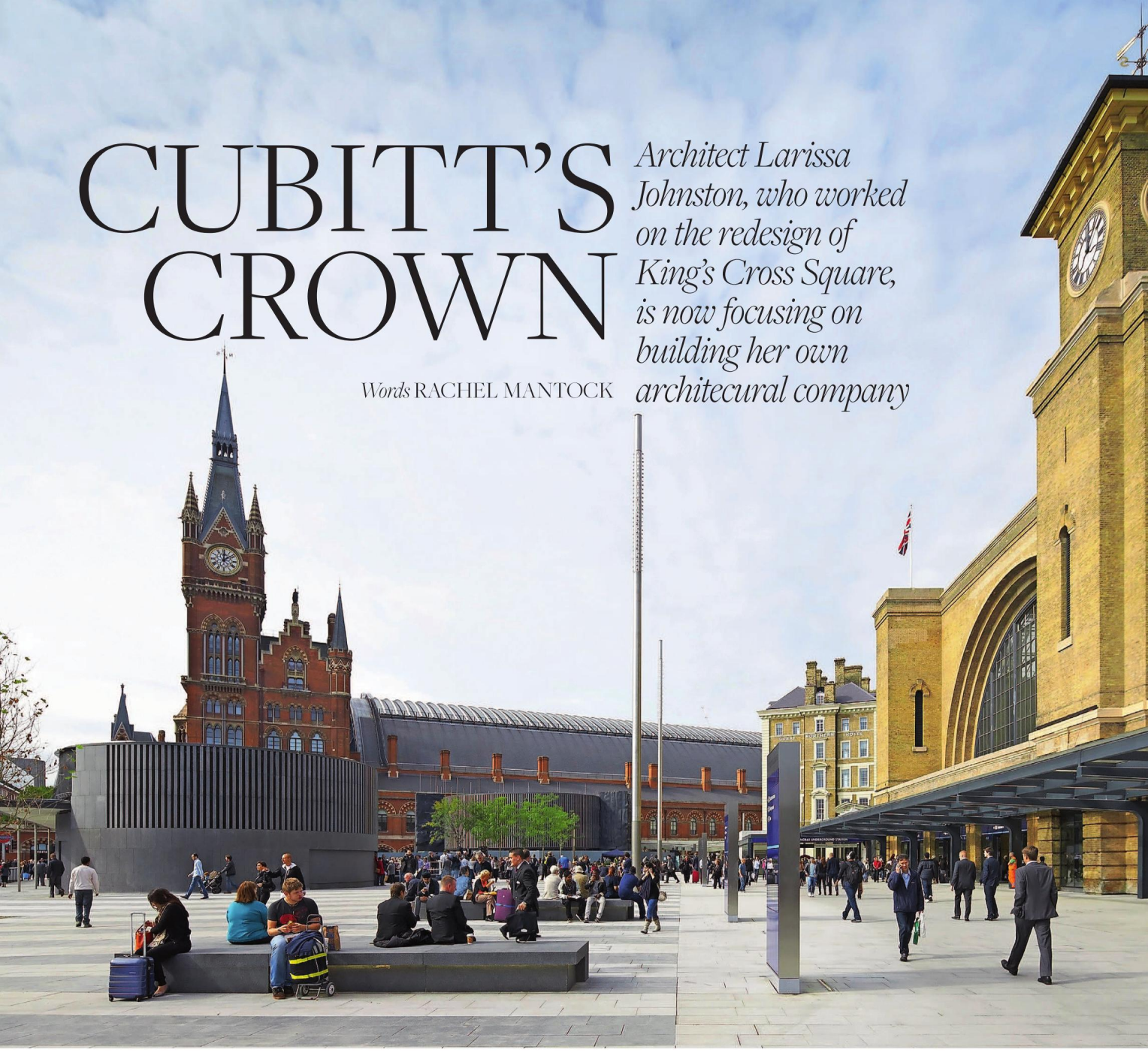
The vintage aesthetic of the store places it perfectly among the antique offerings of Camden Passage where they love the community feel and connecting with locals. Gorilla Perfumes is a niche boutique and high street perfumery hybrid, taking the best of both and throwing them together to produce a new way of making, buying and experiencing fragrance.

The next 'Scented Songs' takes place on 22 September at 7pm at Gorilla Perfumes, 3 Islington High Street N1 8EA; lush.com

CUBITT'S CROWN

Architect Larissa Johnston, who worked on the redesign of King's Cross Square, is now focusing on building her own architecural company

Words RACHEL MANTOCK



Producing sculptural building forms allows architect, Larissa Johnston, to experience a harmonious fusion between fine art, physics and mathematics. Being intensely driven, Johnston started building her own company a few years ago while still working on projects for Stanton Williams. 'I gained a wealth of experience at Stanton Williams,' she says. 'When I started my own practice, it just felt like the right time to do it. The scale of the projects I currently work on is very different, but the creative process is effectively the same.'

One of these public, large scale projects was the redesign of King's Cross Square, where Johnston served as lead project architect. Stanton Williams won the exciting project at an international design competition and the final blueprint was 'a dual response to the inherent complexities of the site and the aspirations for the square to become a significant new public space for the city,' while interlinking this with the important functional aspects of King's Cross St Pancras as a major transport hub.

Interestingly, the most complex and challenging part of the project was finding innovative solutions to deal with the 'complex assortment of London Underground structures' that sit beneath the square.

'We clad a lot of elements in dark granite, which is also used to clad landscaping elements such as benches and tree planters,' explains Johnston. 'We also defined a number of distinct zones within the square that provide orientation and meeting points, as well as two shaded seating areas. The dark and light granite stripes running across the square visually link it to Cubitt's 1952 station facade.'

The regeneration of this area should serve as an example for other projects across London

The seasoned architect and Islington resident has watched the regeneration of the King's Cross area unfold over the last 15 years, describing it as 'incredibly exciting'. The area's reworked historical elements, such as the Granary Building and the Transit Sheds, give it an air of richness, a marriage between heritage and the contemporary. 'The emphasis on quality

design is impressive and the regeneration of this area should serve as a leading example for other large scale regeneration projects across London,' she says.

Making the move from a large architectural company to her own independent practice has allowed Johnston to zone in on smaller scale residential projects, with a focus on every day domestic living. Her airy, minimalist design of an Islington maisonette allowed her to 'maximise the sense of spaciousness', making the inside and outside one by using 'full width sliding doors that open up into the courtyard garden'.

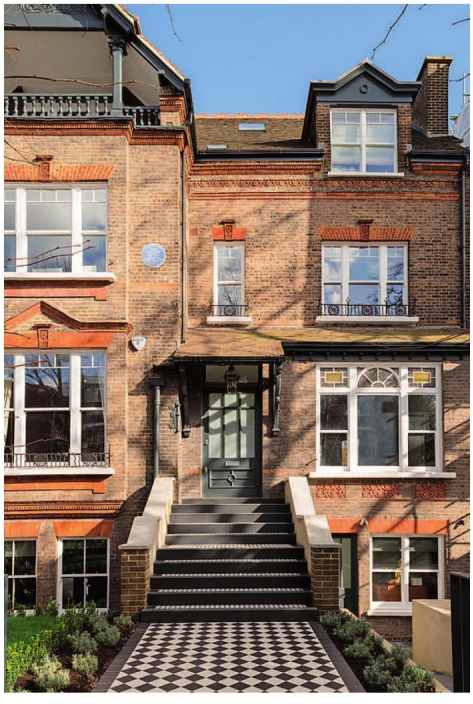
All the internal walls were removed before steel structures were incorporated and 'fully concealed inside the thickness of the building fabric to allow for clean, uninterrupted lines within the main space'. Clever and inventive elements such as the compact plywood box that serves as a staircase, shelves, desk, kitchen and utility maximise the floor space. All natural materials were used, contrasting hard materials such a polished concrete, glass and stainless steel against the softer timber and plywood.

Johnston incorporated the exterior of the property into the natural, historical landscape of Islington and the conservation area local to the maisonette, characterised by large four storey Victorian terraces. This heritage aspect contrasts against the ultra modern interior in a striking way, creating a sense of surprise once you enter the property from outside.

The layout of this Islington home was reversed, moving the bedrooms upstairs and creating a large, open plan kitchen, dining and living space downstairs

Having grown up in Sydney, Johnston has come a long way to achieve her architectural dreams. She is still in love with all the creative offerings present in London despite having now been here for 16 years. With an eco-home project on the books, as well as the reworking of a charming mid-century house, Larissa Johnston Architects is going from strength to strength.

Find out more at larissajohnston.com



LIGHT *continuum*

How this Maresfield Gardens home was transformed to offer harmony and period detailing

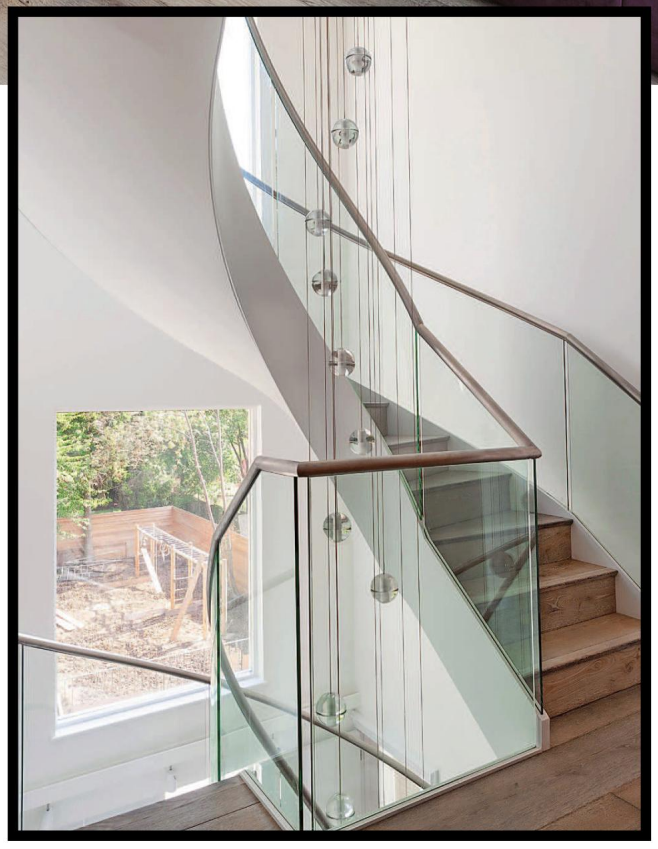
Words RACHEL MANTOCK

The marble and ash wood finishes throughout the home give it a luxurious edge

Clad in white marble with delicate grey veins, oak and concrete floors with a vast expanse of light pouring in from all angles, founder of MW Architects, Matthew Wood, and his team have created a north London home with an artisan touch. With the main aim of creating fluidity throughout the property, inside and out while maximising the amount of natural light to full effect, the design team stripped the property back to its core, retained what little original features there were and built a contemporary, chalky white aesthetic around them. Wood says: 'Whatever features the house had that were feasibly retainable, we kept, like the ornate door surrounds and windows towards the front of the house.'

The ground floor extension is the epitome of modern elegance, with soft grey concrete flooring that spills out and continues into the garden, complete with huge, aluminium sliding doors. Added touches such as the arty lighting and the clever spatial design that allows a flood of natural light to bathe all four walls give it the wow factor. MW Architects took a more simplistic approach upstairs, allowing 'the original proportions of each room to speak for themselves'.

Of the harmonious flow they have created throughout the house, Wood says: 'The entire house now has this very crisp, modern and refined way about it. The standout piece is definitely



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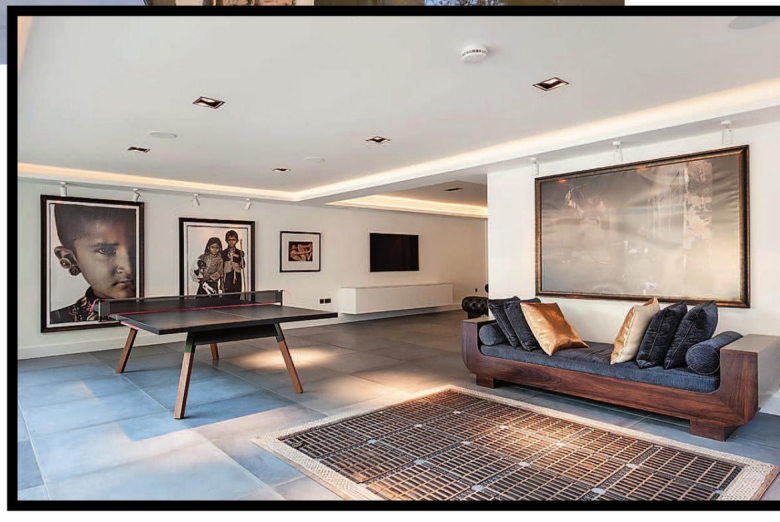
The tiles flow from the house to the garden, giving an outside in feeling

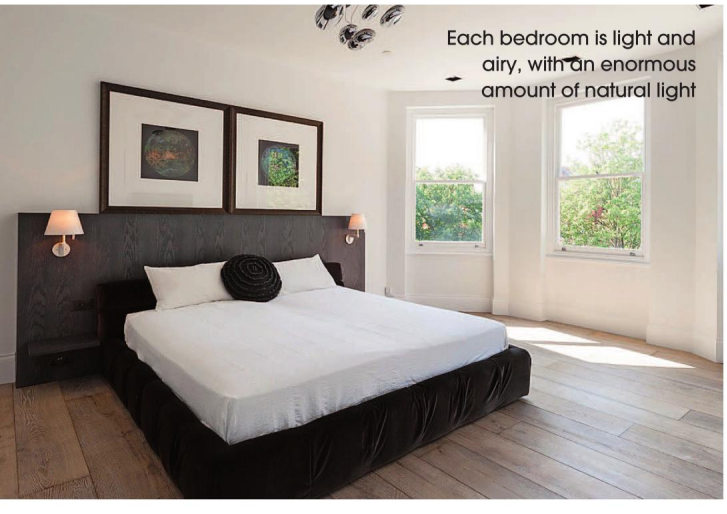


the huge, masterful winding staircase we put in the middle. It's the ultimate wow, just an impressive structure in itself that has made a huge difference to the entire layout of the house.'

The original staircase was in the exact same space, but was dominating in an ugly way, taking up too much space and blocking out masses of natural light. Replacing it with a circular staircase freed up the sides of the walls, creating space for light to fill the house.

'The flow of the house is important,' says Wood. 'If you always have to double back when walking through a house to get to certain rooms, it breaks up the space. We designed this home to flow in an almost cyclical way. Everything feels much more fluid with a complete circulation of walkways, which all stem from the staircase structure.'

Although MW Architects took care of the entire project, including design planning, contract management and the interiors, the client had a lead role in choosing the touches that would really make this property a feel homely.



Each bedroom is light and airy, with an enormous amount of natural light

Woods explains: 'The client likes Asian influences and enjoys going off to places like Thailand and coming back with ornate Buddhas and symbolic sculptures. So, there are quite a few of those pieces dotted around the house. She also has quite a lot of art, which was why she was so keen to have plain walls. She wanted the art to be able to move from wall to wall and to stand out.'

With the added art value of distinctive sculpture and one-off art pieces, this property is more than just an impressive contemporary home – it has the Zen factor. The client and her family didn't want their much loved art work to have to compete with loud décor. The matching of finishes – such as stained ash joinery – on every floor, including the roof terrace, means that each room is harmonious with the others.

Considering the functional result of this family home, Wood finishes by saying: 'Lots of things can happen at once in this house, either completely separately or all in conjunction with each other. We wanted to build in that choice. It's all about those different family interfaces.'

Find out more about MW Architects at mwarchitects.co.uk

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Story KARA O'REILLY

From clockwise

LOUNGE AROUND

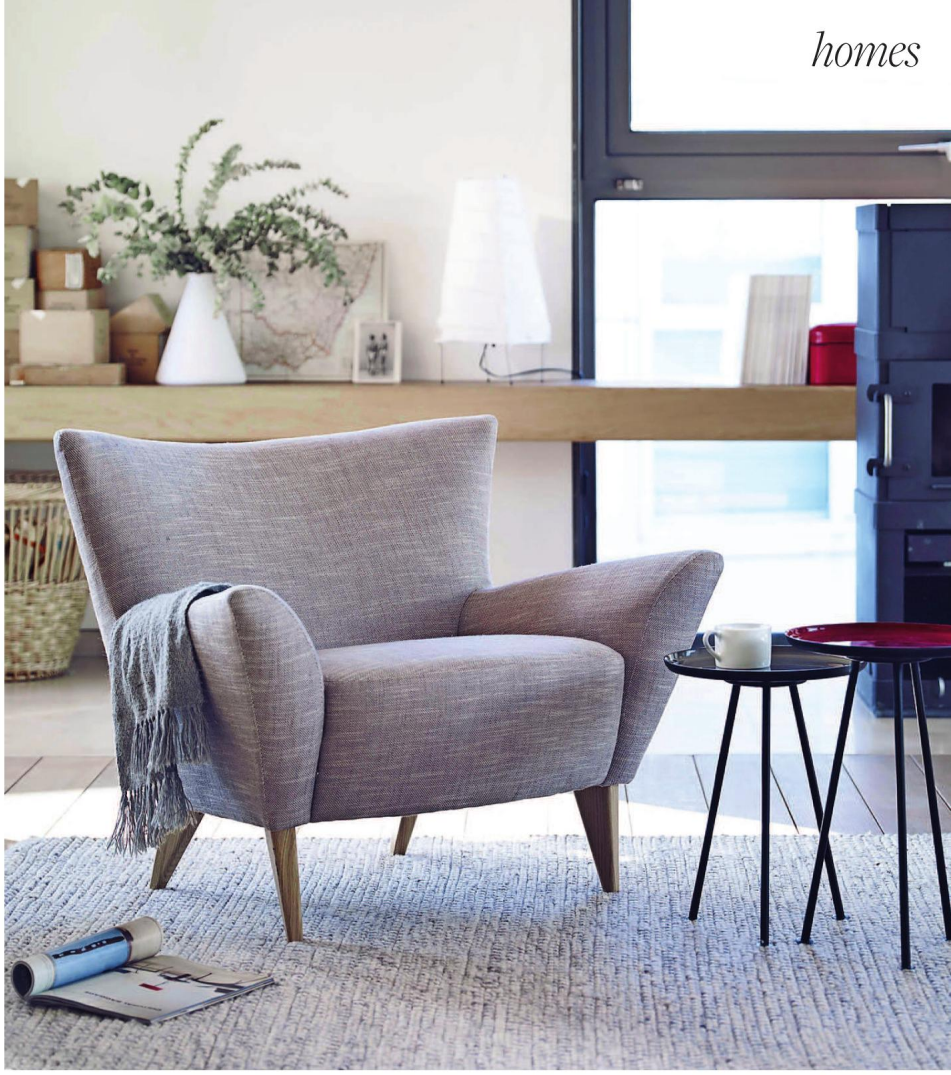
There is nothing more glamorously 'Hollywood in its heyday' that a languorous daybed.
Maxime day bed, £3,500, uk.jonathanadler.com

TAKE A SEAT

The sculptural shape of this generous armchair will make it a stand-out piece in your sitting room.
Toros armchair, from £895, contentbyterence conran.com

DESIGN LINES

This chic new take on a classic Chesterfield design will slip neatly into any space.
Balmoral sofa (upholstered in Heals' velvet), from £2,995, heals.com ›



From clockwise

LIE BACK
A simple, stylish day bed that will fit into any design scheme.
Eloria left-hand facing chaise in Nickel, £499, made.com

GOOD SUPPORT
Wingbacks are seriously back in vogue, partly down to their cocooning qualities
Oscar armchair, from £678, love-your-home.co.uk

SOFT TOUCH
Elegant and neat, this is a subtle update of a timeless occasional chair.
Pimlico button-back green velvet armchair, £399, atkinandthyme.co.uk

From clockwise

LAZY DAYS
A comfy chaise that takes its looks from a classic armchair.
Bluebell day bed in Canary pure cotton matt velvet, from £1,070, sofa.com

NICE CURVES
Art Deco lines and bold colour makes for a statement piece of seating.
Madame Coco chair in Treacle Turquoise, from £719, sofaworkshop.com

COMFORT FACTOR
A generous, relaxed, new love seat design from Loaf, the masters of comfortable upholstery.
Young Bean love seat, from £1,345, loaf.com

Go with the times

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Composing is an art – and that also applies to interior design. With this mind, *SieMatic* cooperates with renowned international designers to develop room planning concepts for the style collection *Classic*, whose options go far beyond traditional kitchen planning and offer broad latitude for interpretation. These concepts make it possible to play with styles and to utilize seemingly contradictory design elements to compose a harmonious whole, to the delight of all who seek to elegantly combine the old values and the new.

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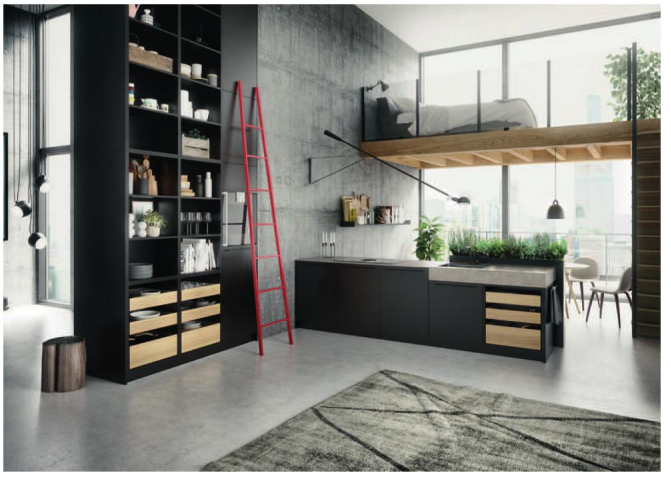

PURE

KITCHEN INTERIOR DESIGN SINCE 1929

NEW SEASON NEW STYLE

Now's the time to update your home with our pick of this coming season's new trends

Story KARA O'REILLY

Feathers double duvet set, £25; Piper bed, £129; velvet cushions, from £7 each; fairy statue, £4; green tea light holder, £2; black and gold vase, £12, all George Home; asda.com

Porthole mirrors, from £59 each, grahamandgreen.co.uk

Checker glass vase, £25, habitat.co.uk

Swan-head forks, £19.50 for set of 4, marksandspencer.com

Cleo print cushion, £15, marksandspencer.com

Brass hand wall sconce, £595, uk.jonathanadler.com

GOTHIC GLAMOUR

Think the dark side of fairytales. This look blends folk motifs, deep hues, a sprinkle of Victoriana, highlights of gold and brass, plus macabre motifs – from faux animal skulls to stuffed birds

See it at: Marks & Spencer, House of Hackney, Rockett St George, George Home

Raven lamp by Abigail Ahern Edition, £85, debenhams.com

Distressed black bench, £425, rockettstgeorge.co.uk

Bird's feet candlesticks, £59.95 for set of 3, miafleur.com

Cora brass drinks trolley, £169, made.com

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RIBA

Woven wooden cloche lampshade, £15, George Home, asda.com

Matt emulsion £36 per 2 litres, and eggshell, £23 for 750ml, all paintbyconran.com

Marron Glace coffee cup and saucer, £99, ninacampbell.com

Alda plant pot, £4, oliverbonas.com

Maggie mohair cushion, £65, both habitat.co.uk

Orange enamel plates, from £10.50 each, postcardshome.co.uk

See it at: Habitat, Jonathan Adler, House of Fraser, John Lewis

EARTH TONES

This look nods back to the favoured colours of 70s decorating schemes – all ochres, burnt oranges, mustards and tans – while also making a nod to seasonal autumnal shades

Design Project 004 Highboard storage in oak, £799, johnlewis.co.uk

Rydale compact sofa in Scala Velvet Ochre, £1,199, marksandspencer.com

Bambu horn and condiment spoons, £36 for set of 6, oka.com

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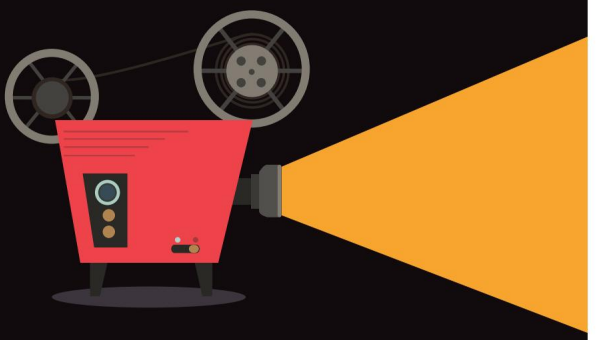

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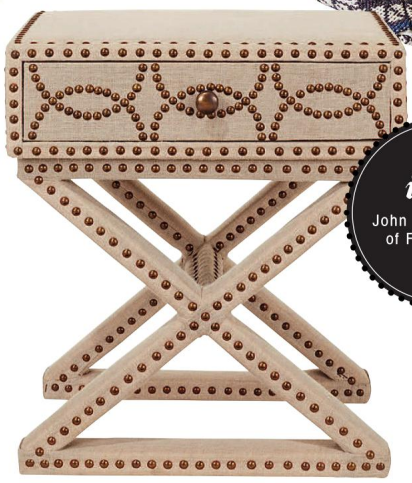
Diamond shadow pouffe, £120, johnlewis.com



Zamindar linen and brass studded side table, £585, oka.com

See it at: John Lewis, House of Fraser, OKA, Habitat

WORLD TRAVELLER

The interiors crowd are still loving the notion of a global village, cherry-picking a whole plethora of worldly patterns and traditions while favouring an artisan feel

Tribal vase by Abigail Ahern Edition, £25, debenhams.com

Bright Paisley double duvet set, £12, George Home, asda.com

Ely vintage reupholstered armchair (from a selection of one-off pieces), £2,250, arumfellow.com

Artisan weave bath mat, £20; Artisan towels, from £10 each; Ethnic weave towels, from £10 each; Contrast red trim laundry basket, £55; Diamond seagrass baskets, £40 for set of 2; red ceramic votive, £12; and large ceramic lantern, £50, all houseoffraser.co.uk

Interactive events and exclusive tastings will be held throughout the bank holiday weekend

Foodies Festival Returns

This bank holiday weekend, Alexandra Palace will be transformed into a food lover's paradise in celebration of London's culinary talent

Watch 2016's MasterChef champion, Jane Devonshire and the head chefs of some of London's most acclaimed spots, including Rakesh Nair from The Cinnamon Club, Will Stayner of York & Albany and the former restaurant Sixtyone's head chef, Arnaud Stevens cook their signature dishes live in the Aga Rangemaster Chef's Theatre.

They'll give you the tantalising recipes and you can pick up everything you need to recreate them at home in the Artisan Market, where you can shop and sample from more award-winning producers than ever before. Be sure to leave room for a feast of international flavours and delicacies - on Street Food Avenue - and champagne, wine and craft beer master classes in the Drinks Theatre.

Those with a sweet tooth will love the Cake & Bake Theatre - taste your way through baking and chocolate master classes with Burlesque Baker, Charlotte White and master chocolatier, Fiona Sciolti. While the sun is still out to play, dine al fresco with the BBQ Arena, where grilling pros will reveal their top tips and recipes.

After a day of foodie fun, picnic on the grass with friends and family, relaxing with live music from the Unsigned Music Awards and a refreshing cocktail from the Giant Pimm's Teapot or Mojito Galleon. Hardcore foodies can even enter the famous Chilli-Eating Competition. A new addition for 2016, the 20s style VIP tent is a glamourous space to unwind in, with live music sounding from a grand piano, a private mirror bar and a welcome glass of bubbly for VIPs.

27-29 August, Alexandra Palace Way N22 7AY; Get 2-for-1 tickets by quoting ANGEL241 at foodiesfestival.com
T&Cs: Offer applies to adult day tickets only. Excludes VIP tickets. Offer available online only. Children 12 and under go free.

GOURMET

{FOOD AND DRINK IDEAS FOR DISCERNING PALATES}

TREAT FOR THE SENSES

Why north London is the place to offer five star dining

Thanks to the above photograph, courtesy of the Angler, we are struggling to write this introduction to our gourmet special – it's making us hungry. You wouldn't think from looking at this image that the Angler is renowned for its seafood, which is set to go up another notch with the appointment of Gary Foulkes as Head Chef. That's the dessert to our main as cover star Pascal Aussignac reminisces about 20 years of success.

CLUB CLASSICS

Pascal Aussignac is well known for his acclaimed French restaurants – but Brexit could change his fortunes

Words ALEXANDER LARMAN

The chef Pascal Aussignac might not be a household name, but it's likely that you'll have been to at least one of his restaurants, whether it's his Michelin-starred flagship Club Gascon, his more informal brasserie Comptoir Gascon, or one of his street food establishments, Duck n Roll or Chip + Fish. Having established himself in the forefront of London dining for well over a decade now, you'd expect Aussignac to be calm and optimistic about the future. However, a little thing called Brexit might have changed everything.

'It's very difficult to be certain about what's going to happen as it's early days, but the government seems lost,' Aussignac says sternly. As he puts it: 'Some 80% of my employees are from Europe, as Britain doesn't have any employees to supply the restaurant industry. If young people can't come to the UK for work, we have a problem. Young people come here to learn English and to find a job, and if they can't get a residency permit, I wonder how the hospitality sector will be supplied. France has 400 cooking schools, and Britain has 20. There is no way that you will have enough trained people to supply the restaurant.' Prices for goods from Europe have already gone up 10%; Aussignac isn't worried about his own situation, but notes that 'the future is more blurred for foreigners than it should be.'

Club Gascon needs me. It's a space with a tiny kitchen that serves complicated food

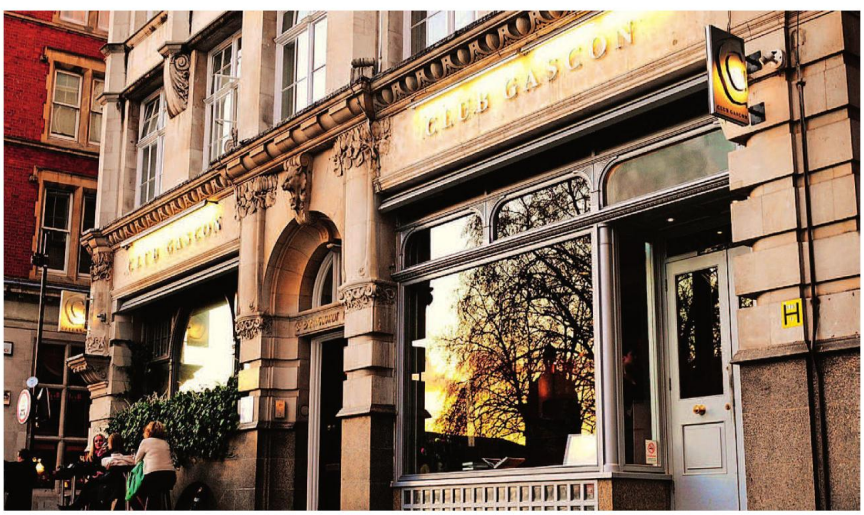
His own background is one of fusion between France and England; he calls himself 'a French Londoner', and originally opened Club Gascon in 1998 because he wasn't able to get a bank loan to start a restaurant in Paris. 'We opened Club in 1998, having decided to open in 1996,' he reflects. 'It was the perfect time to come to London, but things were very different to what they are now – the big names were Terence Conran, Jean-Christophe Novelli and Peter Gordon. Times change.' The quality of his restaurants, thankfully, has not. Aussignac always knew he wanted to be a chef ('Although I wanted to be a stone cutter until I was eight – I was useless at things like maths, but always good with my hands'), and prides himself on respecting his Gascony heritage with his restaurants, whether formal or informal. 'Club Gascon needs me,' he states, 'it's my baby and it's a space with a tiny kitchen that serves complicated food. I'm the only Frenchman in the kitchen, and need to train my staff in the Gascony flavours – I am the link and it must be unbroken!'

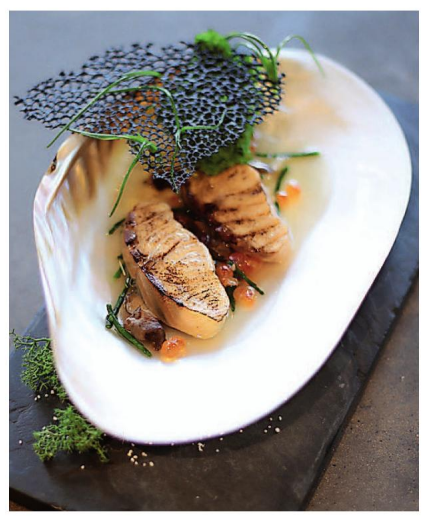
He is the proud holder of a Michelin star for over a decade, but has also won accolades including Time Out's 'best fries' award for Comptoir Gascon and a Lord Mayor's award for his restaurants' floral displays, which he does himself. If he had to summarise his successes, he says: 'I am in Britain and have been for 20 years, and am very proud to have made somewhere to exist that delivers a message – it's not just doing a job, but I love pleasing people. On behalf of Club Gascon and co, it represents some part of my DNA outside of France.'

57 West Smithfield EC1A 9DS; 020 7600 6144; clubgascon.com

TIM RONEY

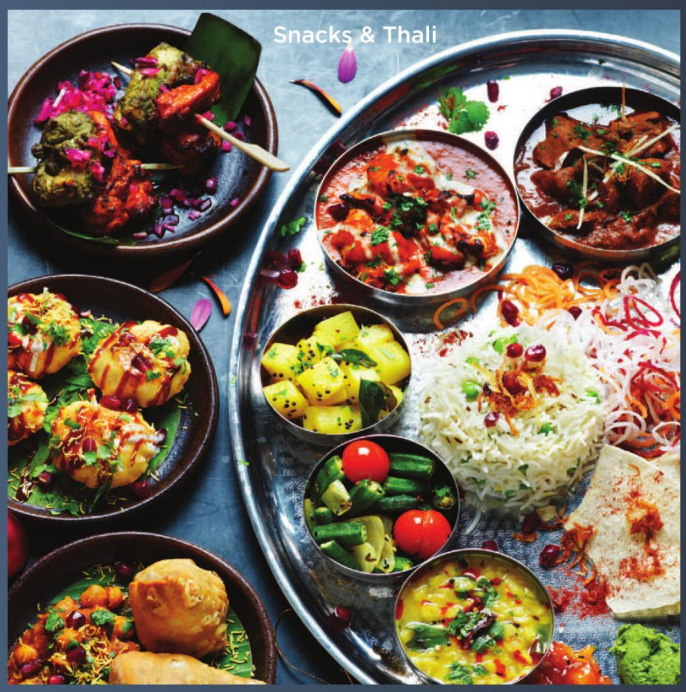
Aussignac has been at the helm of Club Gascon for 20 years





MASALA ZONE

A REAL TASTE OF INDIA


Snacks & Thali

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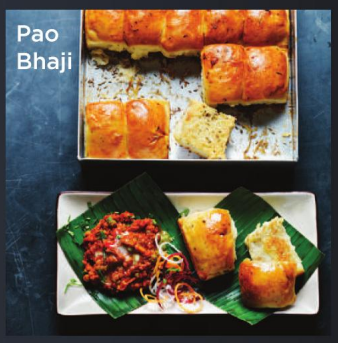
Chicken Kothu paratha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FISHING *for* IDEAS

Newly appointed Head Chef at Angler, Gary Foulkes, is bringing his own signature style to the acclaimed seafood restaurant

Words RACHEL MANTOCK

Having moved to London 15 years ago to work for Richard Neat, who was one of the best chefs the country had to offer at the time, Gary Foulkes instantly gave his heart to the city. After stints at Chelsea's Aubergine, Stockcross's Vineyard and most recently The Square, Foulkes was recently appointed Head Chef at the renowned Angler, the city's coveted, Michelin starred seafood restaurant located inside the South Place Hotel. Being in the process of putting his stamp on the place, Foulkes says: 'With such a product driven menu, so focused on seasonality, the Angler offering is constantly evolving. Since joining the team, I have created many new dishes in my own style, which I am incredibly excited to unveil.'

›

The Angler terrace offers a perfect backdrop view of the city

Cornish turbot with bonito dashi aspects

Tartare of Sicilian prawn

Refreshingly, although Foulkes feels that inventiveness with food is essential, he tries 'not to over complicate things', referring to himself as 'a bit of a chef cliché' with the ethos of simply making great tasting food. 'I prefer to source a great product and treat it properly as opposed to overworking things,' he explains.

He has a profound respect for the traditional methods of cooking, though he keeps an open mind, which is why the partnership between Angler and Foulkes is the perfect match as they both take a progressive, forward-thinking approach to food, with an aversion to the pretentiousness that is so often associated with high end dining.

Always striving to use the best of British produce, with an unfaltering belief that the UK produces some of the best fish in the world, Foulkes praises his Cornish suppliers and raves about the juicy lobsters he is working with at the moment. An avid traveller and self proclaimed food tourist, he says he gets 'the same enjoyment from eating at fancy restaurants as he does eating at food carts'. Having recently spent six months researching in Japan and Thailand, Foulkes' mind is overflowing with ideas and ways to rework Angler's palate. 'I've experienced so many cultures and cuisines, opening my eyes to new flavours and methods of cooking that I felt compelled to recreate my own style,' he says. 'I use a lot of ingredients that I've discovered and tasted along the way and a few dishes on the new Angler menu certainly reflect that.'

The alluring Cornish turbot serves as a case in point, with a bonito dashi element, inspired by Foulkes' time in Japan. Looking ahead and preparing to stun guests with Angler's new menu, Foulkes says that there will also be some big and invigorating changes in the South Place Hotel's brassiere style restaurant, where he's deeply involved in the transformation and set to head up the hotel's 3 South Place restaurant – though for now he is staying tight lipped.

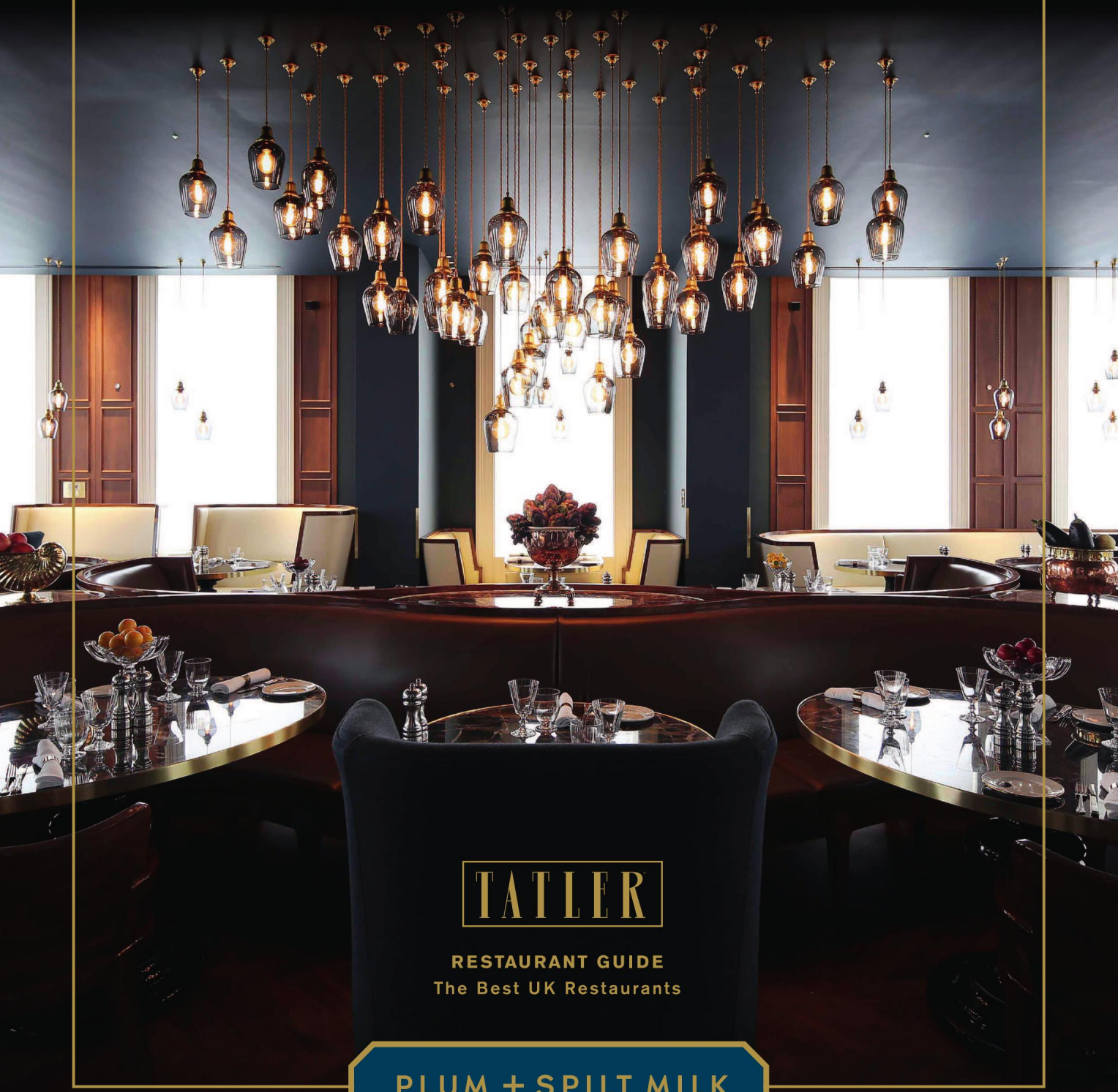
Describing London's dining scene as having something for everyone, no matter how big or small their budget, Foulkes feels that the city's inventiveness when it comes to food is second to none. He thinks back to one of the most 'mind blowing' dining experiences he ever had at El Bulli and refers to Ferran Adria as 'a true innovator', something he strives to be, with an organic, naturally evolving approach, rather than with forced experimental flair with dishes that are elaborately convoluted to the point where there is no enjoyment in making or tasting them anymore, because the functional aspect has been forgotten. In this sense, maybe a 'chef cliché' is exactly what the London scene needs, stripping away all the fanciful gimmicks, taking us back to the basics – and Angler is where you will find just that.

I've experienced so many cultures and cuisines that I felt compelled to recreate my own style

3 South Place EC2M 2AF; 020 3215 1260; anglerrestaurant.com

EXCEPTIONAL BRITISH CUISINE

by Mark Sargeant



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Using Sosharu's entrance, Kisetsu is hidden inside

KYOTO EXCLUSIVITY

Executive Head Chef Alex Craciun is launching Kisetsu, a fine private dining experience inside Clerkenwell's Sosharu. With its own kitchen, Kisetsu will offer diners a daily changing menu, served in traditional 'kappo' style – a succession of speciality Japanese small plates that are prepared in front of you by the chef. Six to ten course menus will showcase the best in British and Japanese produce.

64 Turnmill Street EC1M 5RR; sosharulondon.com

FOOD *NOTEBOOK*

Country classics, Japanese and historic Nordic are all the rage

MODERN BUTCHER

Replacing a historic butcher's shop, one that had been in existence for almost a century, The Ginger Pig, Wanstead, wanted to preserve the heritage of what had once been. Fusing tradition with the contemporary, The Ginger Pig takes a fresh approach. Large cuts of dry aged beef fore ribs hang from the ceiling in their vast display window, while natural clay tiles line the floor and copper pendant lights give the whole ordeal an industrial edge.

3 Clock House Parade, High Street Wanstead E11 2AG; thegingerpig.co.uk

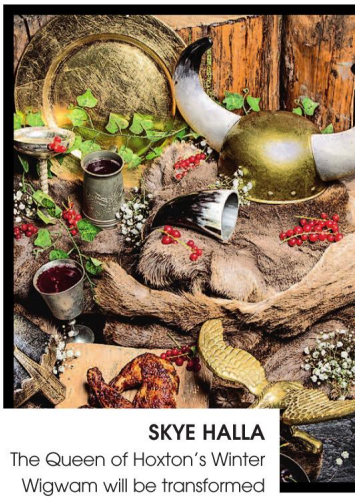
GLORIOUS GROUSE

The Jugged Hare is vowing to get your grouse from 'estate to plate' in less than 12 hours. Their chefs and Ben Weatherall of Yorkshire Game will have the Yorkshire heather moors at their fingertips, venturing out at dawn to bag the best this season has to offer, before racing down to north London to bring guests culinary bliss in the form of a scrumptious British Game and a Joseph Perrier Champagne dinner in Josephine, The Jugged Hare's private dining room.

49 Chiswell Street EC1Y 4SA; thejuggedhare.com

ROYAL JAPAN

In collaboration with All Nippon Airways, Japan's only five star airline, The Royal Exchange is launching a Japanese pop-up menu in celebration of Head Chef, Piero Leone's winning of the Seven Samurai Chefs challenge. Pink Mountain cocktails, ginger and mango, seaweed tartare oshi-sushi and cloud like soya foam all feature on this new, experimental menu. Royal Exchange EC3V 3LR; royalexchange-grandcafe.co.uk



SKYE HALLA

The Queen of Hoxton's Winter Wigwam will be transformed into a Nordic Viking stronghold roof terrace this September, complete with a long boat, feasting hall, fire pits, driftwood sculptures and copious drinking horns. Escape modern life and delve into the depths of the Viking drinking culture, enjoying foraged cocktails, and a traditional feast.

1 Curtain Road EC2A 3JX; queenofhoxton.com

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A middle ground approach to your child can have good long-term benefits

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Why there is a reason to pause in any situation

Words PHILIPPE FRASER

From the moment a new baby is born, parents do everything they can to protect and help their children. A new-born is fragile, precious and needs to be looked after. However, there comes a time when the instinct to jump in and fix everything actually slows a child's progress.

There are two main areas where children need to be given a little time: sleep and patience. There are two broad camps of prevailing thought on these matters – I am going to propose a middle-way instead. First, what are the two schools of thought? For sleep, the division is between the self-soothers and the sensitive reactors. The self-soothing camp believes a child should be left alone, to self-sooth, even if this means a child screaming its head off. At the opposite extreme, parents jump straight in trying to comfort a child at the first sign of a gurgle.

Our solution? 'The Pause'. Children sleep in much shorter sleep cycles than adults, and between each phase of sleep, it is not unusual for a child to gain awareness almost to the point of being awake. At this point, a child may well make various natural noises. But left to his/her own devices, will then start towards the next deep sleep cycle. The risk here is of jumping in to check on a baby, and actually waking the child completely. The point of the pause is to hold back a parent's protective instincts. Is the child just mid-cycle, or does he or she actually need something?

Children have the ability to improve their patience skills themselves

The Pause also ensures a parent does not go all the way to the extreme of just leaving a child when he or she is clearly in distress. A child needs to feel loved and supported, and the risk with self-soothing is that a child will not learn to feel safe – but rather will feel abandoned. The Pause allows a parent to assess if their child actually needs support, and can then provide it as required.

This practice also follows into all other areas as a child grows up. If two adults are having a conversation when one of their children comes up, the usual reaction is to either say 'stop' or to immediately give the child attention. Again the middle way works here by saying 'wait'. If said in a short, sharp manner, a child will usually stop in its tracks and wait. If it really is pressing, the child will not be put off by a simple 'wait'. Yet, gradually, the length of time a child is used to waiting will increase – even if at first it must be kept short. A child has to learn that waiting gets result. Finishing your verbal paragraph is the perfect length to start with, but once a child understands that 'wait' does mean you will give them attention once you are ready, the length of time can be increase successfully. In her excellent book, *How to Talk so Kids will Listen*, Adele Faber writes of the advantages of a short direct message. Children quickly lose interest in long explanations – so a short 'wait' is much more effective than a more laborious reply.

Children have the ability to improve their patience skills, and as adults we have a responsibility to help them experience it. A child that is content with waiting is the start of a child who can develop internal resources to cope with frustration.

Philippe Fraser is Director of the Bilingual Nurseries group, with a nursery in Angel and another in Paddington; bilingualnurseries.com

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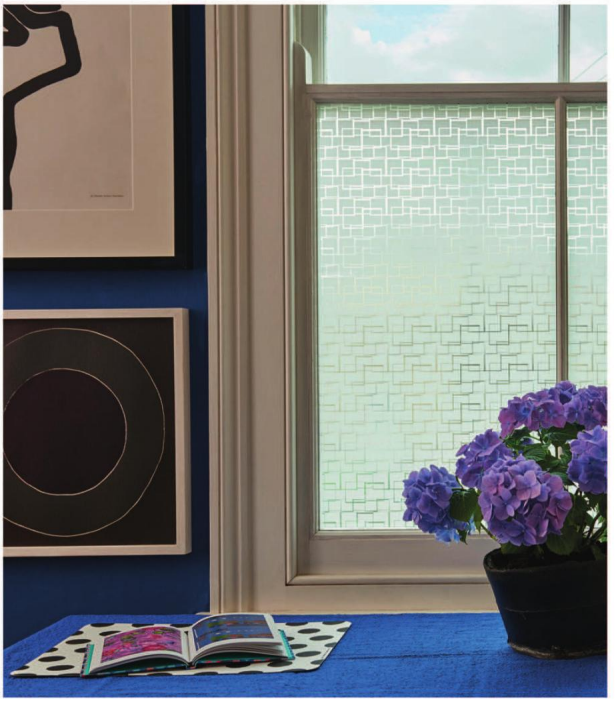

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The late Georgian Islington townhouse up for sale

Located in Canonbury Square, this is a beautiful late Georgian townhouse that is set over five floors featuring well proportioned rooms. The house retains many period features including original fireplaces, beautiful cornicing and sash windows, which blend seamlessly with many modern touches. There are five bedrooms and four spacious reception rooms, and a rear conservatory, garden and patio.

£4,950,000 through Savills Islington, 020 7226 1313

SARAH CURTIS

ASSISTANT MANAGER, CURRELL ISLINGTON

Why it is impossible to tire of Islington

Despite having lived here for 35 years, the diverse nature of Islington and the way that its different pockets each offer their own appeal never ceases to amaze me, which is part of its enduring appeal.

Cross Street in particular has a wonderfully eclectic mixture of things on offer, whether you are perusing Tallulah Lingerie, which has been hailed as one of London's finest boutiques, enjoying a bite in Saffrini, the popular Indian restaurant, or viewing works at the Cross Street Gallery. The street also houses the Little Angel Theatre, a puppet theatre that's popular with young families. For older theatre goers, a walk across the road brings you to the Almeida Theatre, one of London's most famous destinations.

Head north from Almeida Street and you will soon find Barnsbury Street, punctuated by sprawling Georgian and Victorian terraced houses, many of which have now been divided into flats. The street is popular with affluent young professionals, some of whom will have purchased furniture at Aria, which sits on the corner of the street and is a haven for lovers of stylish contemporary furniture, lighting and gifts. Sitting just off Barnsbury Street is College Cross, one of the area's most popular residential roads. We are currently marketing a beautifully refurbished Grade II listed Victorian house here.

College Cross boasts a stunning double reception room

While Upper Street forms the main artery of the area, it is the side streets that hold the true gems

Whether you are seeking retail therapy, wanting to enjoy an award-winning theatre or just wanting to indulge in fine food and drink, Islington has something for everybody. While Upper Street forms the main artery of the area, it is the side streets veering off it that hold the true gems.

College Cross, N1
£3,150,000 freehold
This is a recently modernised Grade II listed Victorian house that has been subject to a major refurbishment, now offering four bedrooms and three luxury bathrooms. There is an elegant and wide formal double reception room, whilst the ground floor is now open plan with a high quality fitted kitchen and a stunning glass family extension to the rear.

Currell Islington, 321 Upper Street N1 2XQ; 020 7226 4200; currell.com

MY MONTH

Karen Keating, Sales Manager at Dexters Islington Office, on new beginnings

What has been the most challenging aspect of your month?
As a new office, our focus has been establishing ourselves and the Dexters name here in Islington. Dexters may be new to Islington but we are one of the industry's leading lights with 28 offices in central London and over 60 across London. Although our name is new to the area, we already have substantial expertise in N1, as we were formally known as Mypad, a well-established local lettings agency. We are now ready and eager to take on sales.

What has been your personal highlight?
It is a very exciting time for us at the moment, with a new office and a new team. I have worked in Islington and the surrounding area for many years and now have a brilliant team of property experts to advise clients on the Islington market. I was especially delighted to see such a positive response to our official launch on Saturday 30 July. Our team were out on the street chatting to people, getting valuations and handing out cupcakes and balloons. We got 16 valuations for sales and lettings on that day alone.

What has been the most surprising thing to happen to you?
On our opening day, our cupcakes were gone by 12pm and everyone wanted one of our balloons. We went through ten entire helium canisters and, by the afternoon, it looked like Upper Street was covered in a canopy of Dexters balloons.

Describe your favourite local lunch spot…
There is a little local café called La Farola that I am in love with. It is a Spanish tapas bar on Upper Street, just around the corner from our office. It offers a late breakfast menu and does great eggs in hollandaise sauce.

How has the market been performing?
The Islington market is a real hotspot for buyers at the moment. It offers huge variety, from rows and rows of beautiful Georgian and Victorian houses to ex-local

authority properties at the other end of the scale. At the top end of the market, better value can be found here than in west London and it has good schools and transport links, making it very attractive to both families and young professionals. With all this to offer, I think the Islington market will hold its value and retain its popularity. Islington appeals to such a broad range of clients and customers that the market here is always guaranteed to be busy.

76 Upper Street N1 0NU; 020 7483 6373; dexters.co.uk

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Guide £3.995 million Freehold

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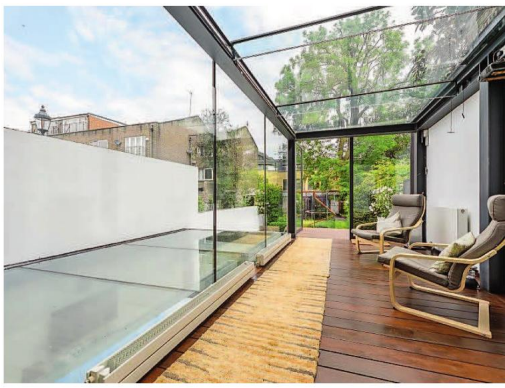

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Shepherdess Walk , N1

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This mid terraced home has been fully modernised inside and consists of three/four double bedrooms, three bathrooms, formal dining room through to reception and an open plan kitchen living room. The property is only half a mile from Old Street Station and just over three quarters of a mile to Angel station, energy rating e.

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Torrington Place, WC1E

£1,100 pw

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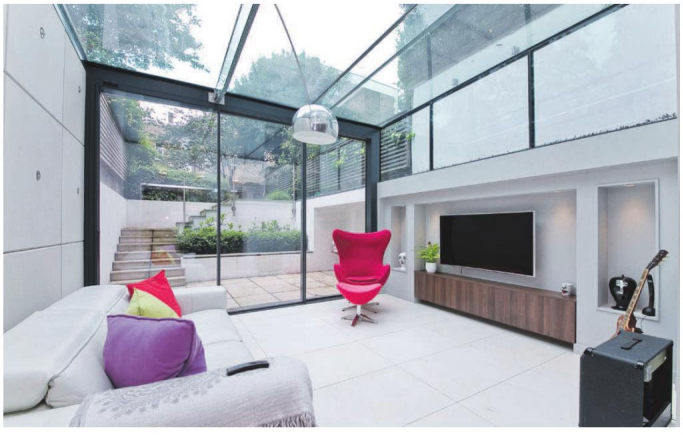

College Cross, N1

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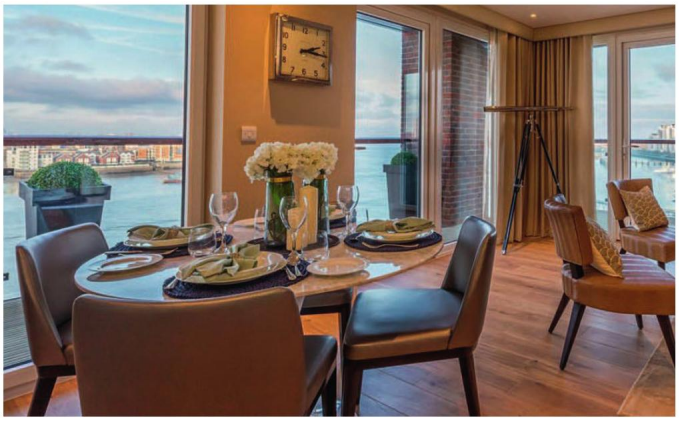

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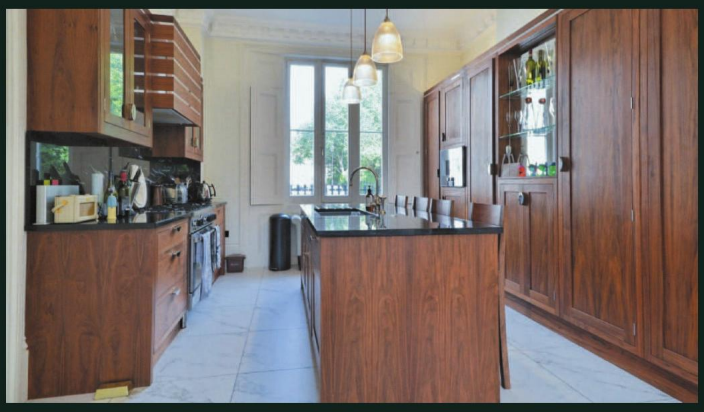

Lonsdale Square, Islington N1

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